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To <u>Examiner Gilman</u>	From <u>A. Gatz</u>		
Co./Dept. <u>USPTO</u>	Co. <u>BSTZ</u>		
Phone # <u>301 09/547561</u>	Phone # <u>310 267.3520/204</u>		
Fax # <u>703 305 0847</u>	Fax #		

PATENT
cket No.: P98-US

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL" 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on February 28, 2002 in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Patti Crowder
Patti Crowder

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Application No.: 09/547,561

Filing Date: April 12, 2000

For: SHAPED SPRINGS

Examiner: A. Gilman

Group Art Unit: 2833

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. and foreign patent document, and pending U.S. application (including drawings and claims), is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: P98-US

☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
-- OR --
- ☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**

☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

A. a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**

B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: P98-US

- ☒ **Fee Authorization.** Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge the above fee of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P98-US). Although Applicants believe that no additional fee is due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment associated, with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P98-US)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 28, 2002By: 

N. Kenneth Burraston
Reg. No. 39,923

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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: P98-US

STATEMENT*(Attachment to Information Disclosure Statement)*

- ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1). APPLICANT'S UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement; or
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2). APPLICANT'S UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 28, 2002By: N. Kenneth Burraston
Reg. No. 39,923

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Telephone: (925) 294-4300

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/547,561
				Filing Date	4/12/00
				First Named Inventor	Mathieu et al.
				Group Art Unit	2833
				Examiner Name	A. Gilman
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P98-US

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature	<i>Alex Gilman</i>	Date Considered	08/26/03
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered. Whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /A.G./

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/547,561Attorney Docket No.: P98-USInventor: Gaetan L. Mathieu et al.Date Due: February 28, 2002Title: SHAPED SPRINGS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

Cited References

- ☐ Patent Application (No. pgs ____)
☒ Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449
☐ Drawings ____ Sheets
☐ Declaration and Power of Attorney
☐ Assignment w/Cover Sheet
☐ Check No. _____ in the amount of \$
☐ Revocation/Power of Attorney & Change of Corres. Address
☐ Certification under 3.73
☐ _____ Transmittal

- ☐ Petition for Extension of Time
☐ Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts
☐ Response/Amendment
☐ Issue Fee Transmittal
☐ Submission of Formal Drawings
☐ Notice of Appeal
☐ Appeal Brief
☐ Express Mail Certificate
☒ Certificate of Mailing

Express Mail label No.: _____

Date Mailed: February 28, 2002